

### ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The invention relates to an improved process for controlling micro-organisms in an aqueous process medium comprising adding a hop acid, characterized in, that the hop acid is dissolved in an aqueous alkaline medium and added to the process medium, wherein the pH of the added, solution is higher than the pH of the process medium and the hop acid passes from the salt form into the free acid form within the process medium. In another embodiment, the invention relates to an improved process for controlling the bacterial growth in a distillery, the improvement comprising adding to the yeast or fermentor feed streams of the distillery an effective antibacterial amount of an isomerized hop acid.